

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 AID-05 IGA-01 SAM-01 EB-07 COME-00

MC-01 /091 W

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R 230836Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3779

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSTDC TAIPEI TW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

CHMAAG TAIPEI TW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MAWSS, TW

SUBJECT: AUTOMATED AIR DEFENSE: PROPOSED ROC VISIT

JOINT EMBASSY/MAAG MESSAGE

1. ROC ARMED FORCES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR ADVISORY EFFORT, CONTINUE TO STRESS MODERNIZATION OF AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. TO MODERNIZE PRESENT MANUAL COMMAND AND CONTROL OF AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM, ROC/MBND HAS BEEN STUDYING SEMI-AUTOMATION FOR OVER TWO YEARS. SUCH A SYSTEM WOULD PROVIDE MUCH IMPROVED AIR DEFENSE REACTION TIME AND BATTLE MANAGEMENT OF AIRCRAFT AND MISSILES IN DEFENDING TAIWAN AGAINST ATTACKING AIRCRAFT. IT WOULD BE A SOUND INVESTMENT, AND BOTH WE AND MND PLACE IT HIGH ON ROC

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DEFENSE HARDWARE PRIORITY LIST.

2. LITTON AND HUGHES, THE TWO CONTRACTORS BIDDING TO SUPPLY AN AUTOMATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM TO THE ROC, BELIEVE THAT THE ROC IS NEARING A DECISION POINT. ROC DECISION MAY NOT BE AS IMMINENT AS CONTRACTORS BELIEVE, BUT MND IS ACTIVELY INTERESTED, AND WANTS TO SEND A WORKING GROUP TO VISIT LITTON SYSTEMS, VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA, AND US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WHERE SEMIAUTOMATED HARDWARE IS IN USE. COUNTRY TEAM CONCURS IN VISIT.

3. VISIT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE WITHIN NEXT 60 DAYS. MAAG WILL SEND CLEARANCE AND VISIT REQUESTS THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS AS SOON AS NAMES ARE RECEIVED FROM MND. GROUP IS EXPECTED TO BE APPROXIMATELY SIX OFFICERS. MAAG WILL PROVIDE ONE ESCORT OFFICER WITH R&D AND WEAPON SYSTEM ACQUISITION BACKGROUND TO ESCORT ROC OFFICERS TO U.S. DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS.

4. MND IS ALSO INTERESTED IN HAVING THE GROUP VISIT ISRAEL AND/OR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (BELGIUM, FRG, SWITZERLAND) WHOSE ARMED FORCES HAVE AUTOMATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS. MAAG HAS TOLD MND THAT WE CANNOT ASSIST THEM IN MAKING SUCH ARRANGEMENTS.

5. APPROXIMATE COST TO MODERNIZE AIR DEFENSE COMMAND CONTROL WILL BE ABOUT US\$25 MILLION. WE ASSUME IF ROC DECIDES ON LITTON OR HUGHES EQUIPMENT - COMPUTERS, DISPLAYS, VIDEO PROCESSORS, AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS TO TIE IN RADARS AND COMMAND AND CONTROL FUNCTIONS - THAT NO DIFFICULTIES WILL ARISE REGARDING EXPORT LICENSES. UNGER

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